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# Thumbnailing for Animation

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Thumbnails from a sequence of Disney's Rescuers

**Preparing for Animation: The Art of Thumbnailing**



## The Art of Thumbnailing

Good animation begins with good planning. One of the first things an animator should do is thumbnail his scene. By thumbnailing we mean creating small quick drawings which provide a blueprint for the poses in the scene.

By working small and rough the animator can try out a number of different poses and come up with the best approach to the scene before committing to animation. This is the stage where problems in staging and acting can be resolved. Once you have worked out the action at this small size it is easy to blow it up on the xerox machine and paste it up to start your scene.

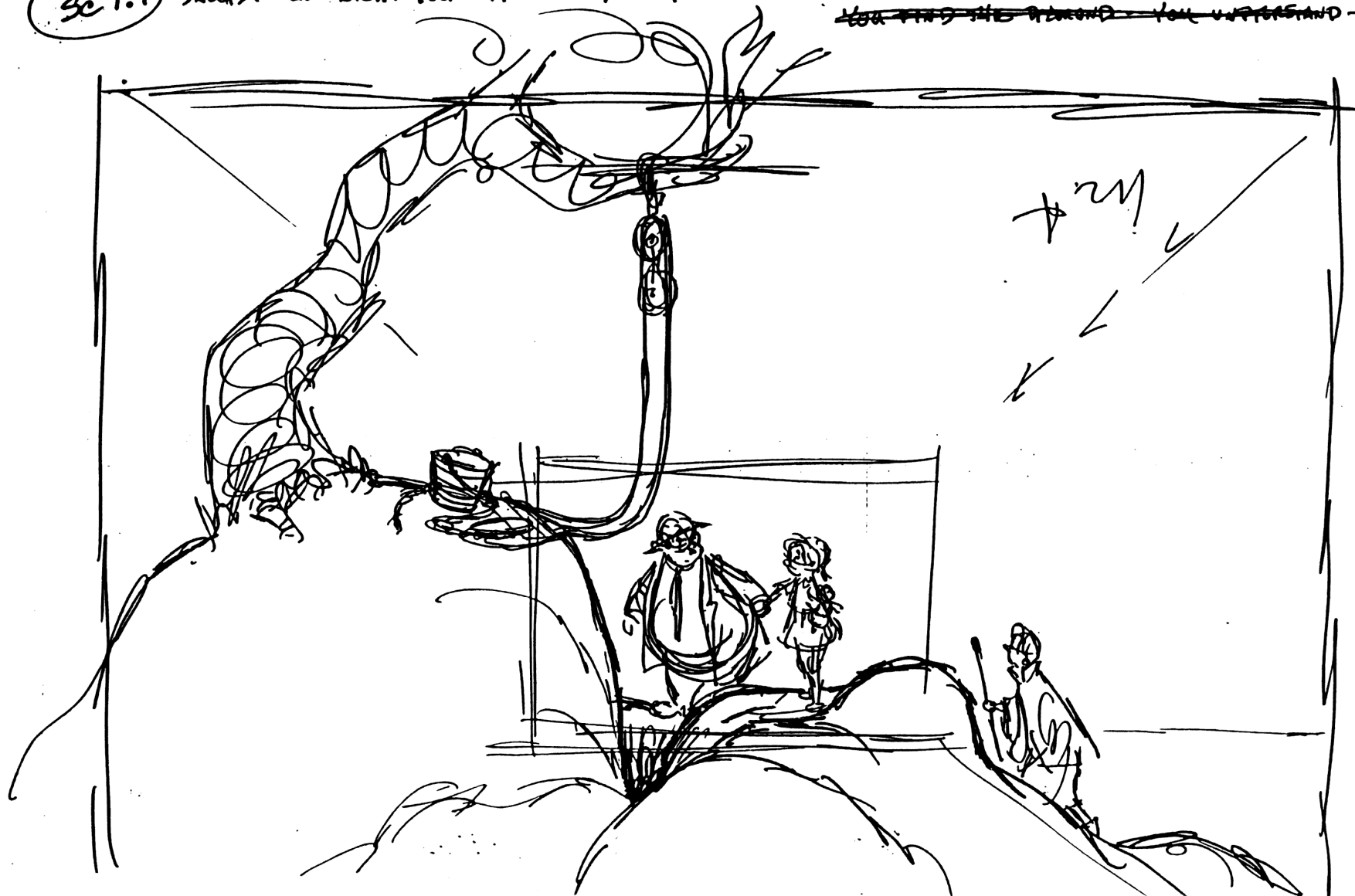
This set of notes shows a sequence from Disney's Rescuers where the animator has worked out his staging and action in a series of great thumbnails.

## The Art of Thumbnailing

SNOOPS AND PENNY ARRIVING AT HOLE — MEDUSA FOLLOWING.

Sc 1.1

SNOOPS: "ALL RIGHT YOU LITTLE BEAT, NOW YOU'RE GONNA GO DOWN IN THAT HOLE ~~AND BE KILLED~~  
~~YOU FIND THE TREASURE — YOU UNDERSTAND —~~"



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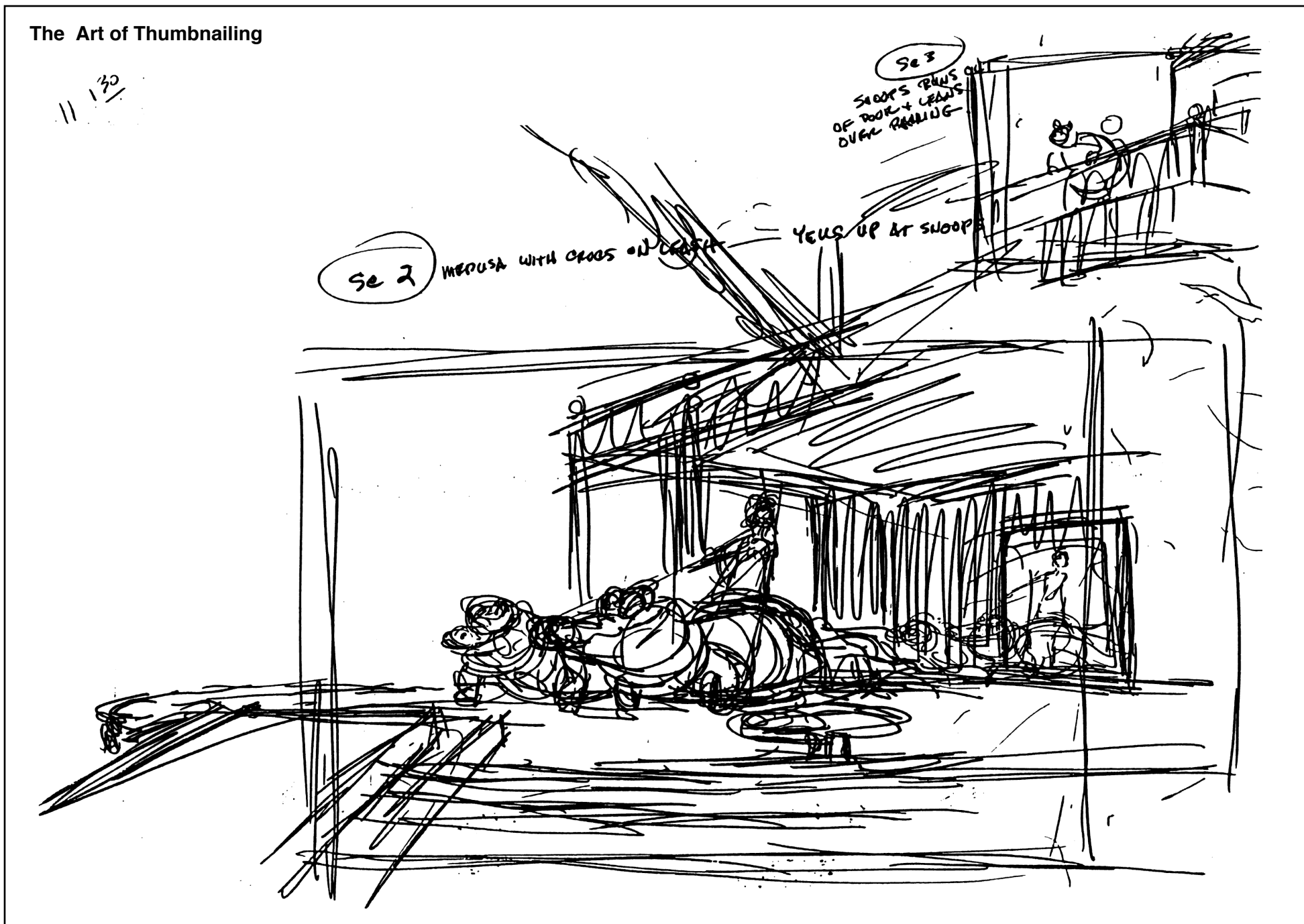
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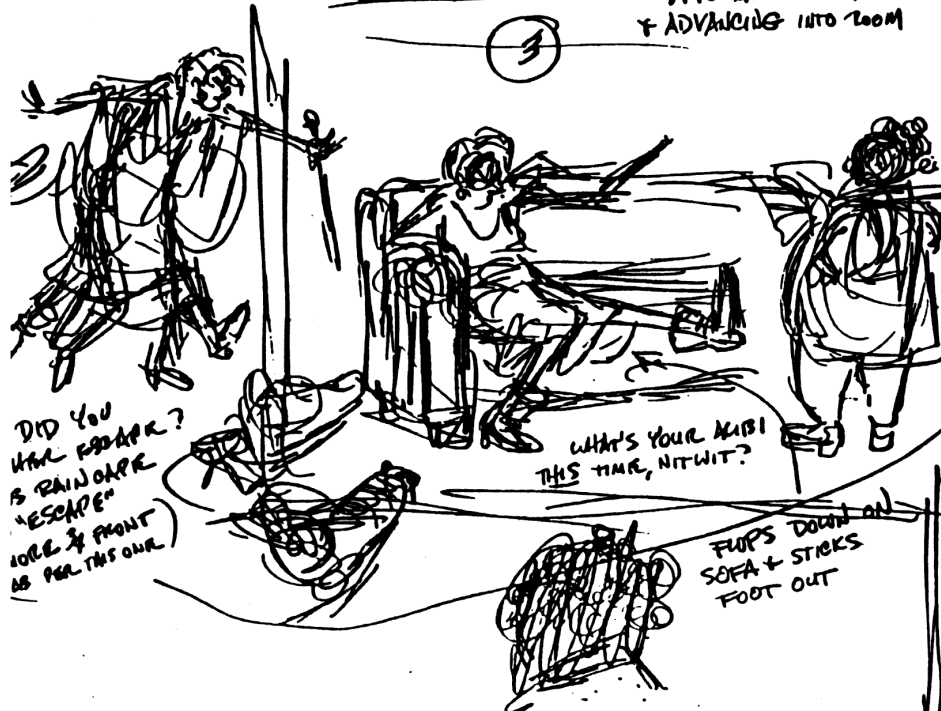


"WHERE IS SHE?!"  
SEAMS DOORED OPEN — VERY DRAMATIC  
ENTRANCE



"WHERE IS SHE — I SENT HER TO  
HER ROOM."  
SNOOPS VERY NERVOUS & APPREHENSIVE  
— SHOPS UP A FEW STEPS

"WHERE IS SHE?"  
STARTS REMOVING GIPSE  
& ADVANCING INTO ROOM



DID YOU  
HEAR THAT?  
IS RAIN GIPSE  
"ESCAPE"  
WELL & FRONT  
AS PER THE FOUR

WHAT'S YOUR NAME  
THIS TIME, NITWIT?

FLIPS DOWN ON  
SOFA & STICKS  
FOOT OUT



THEY'RE  
SUPPOSED TO BE  
PATROLLING THE  
ISLAND

"NITWIT"



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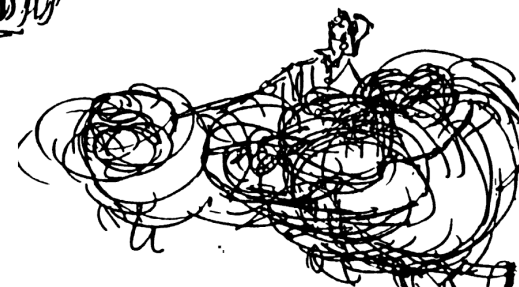
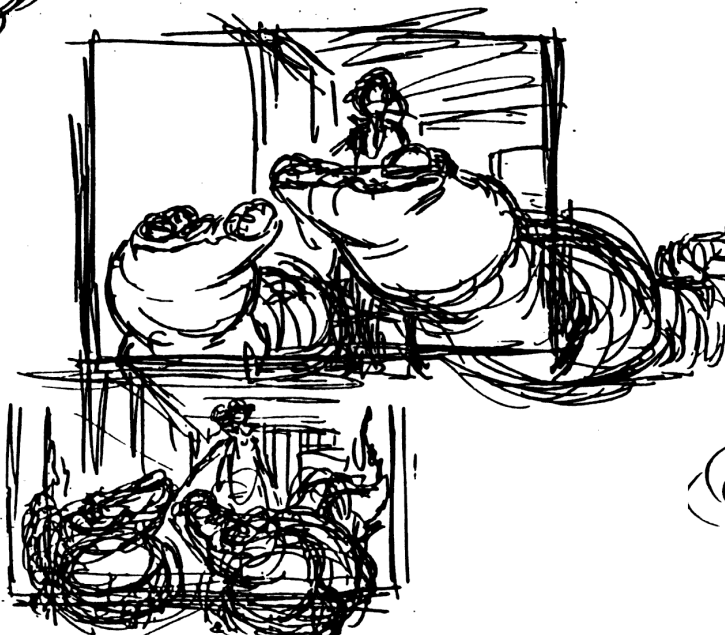


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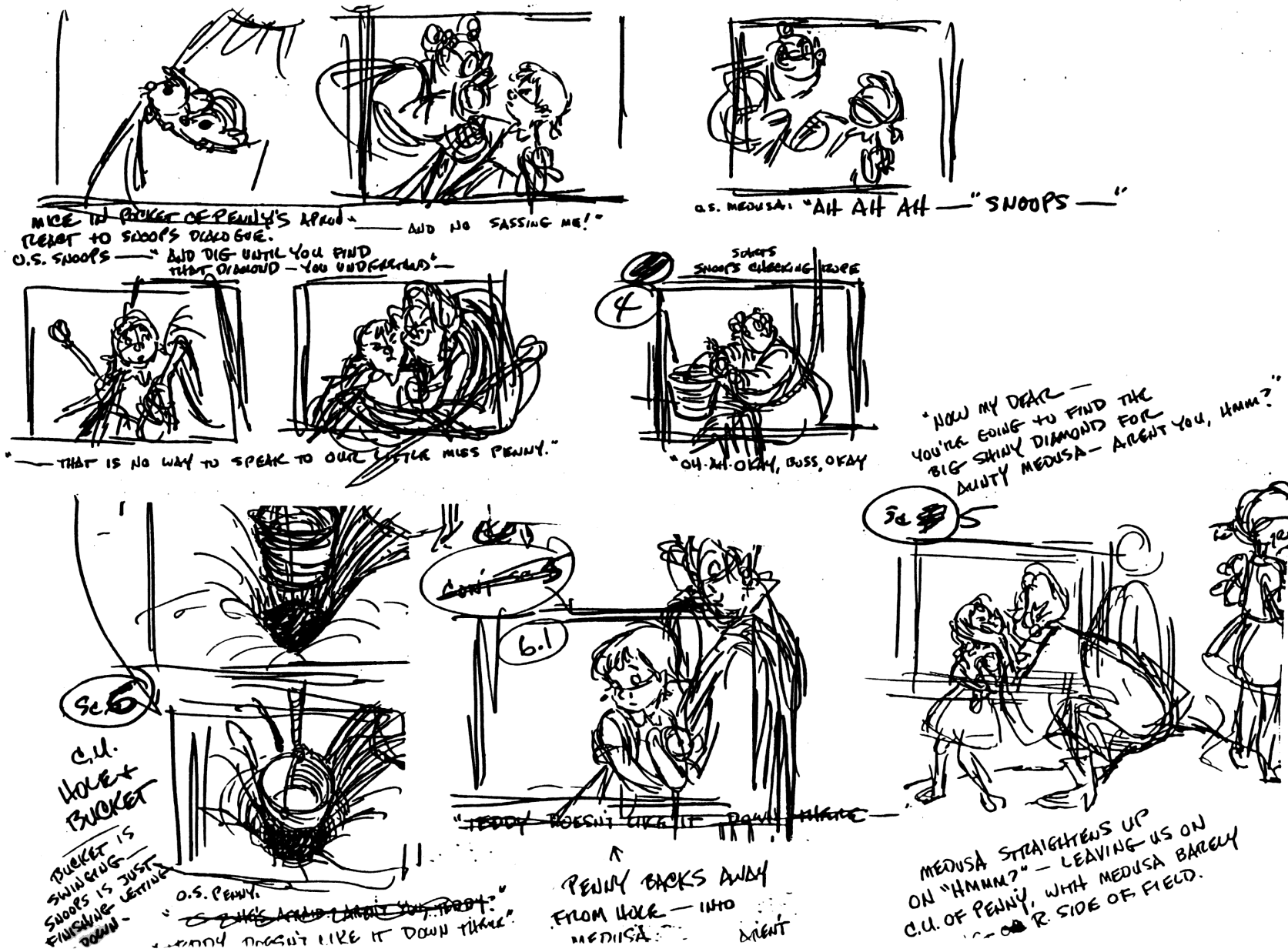


## The Art of Thumbnailing

SNOOTS! SNOOTS! GET DOWN HERE!  
HULL WA WHAT'S UP, MEDUSA? WITH WHAT'S GOING ON?  
THAT LITTLE BRAT HAS ESCAPED AGAIN!  
NERO! BRUTUS! BRING HER BACK BOYS!



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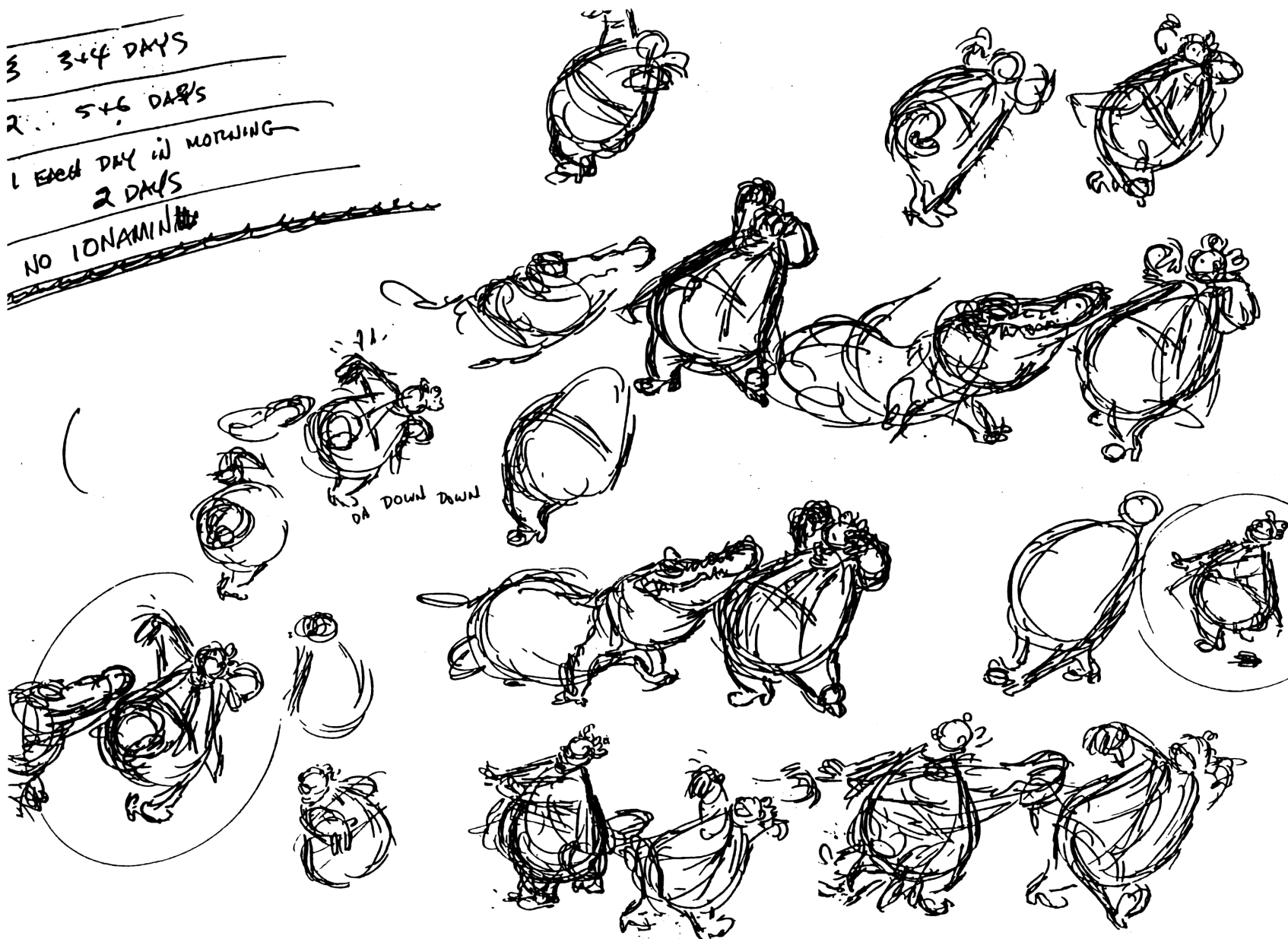
## The Art of Thumbnailing

3 3+4 DAYS

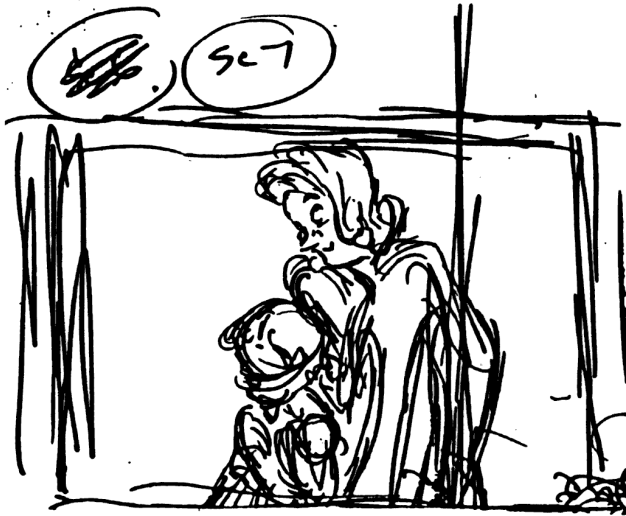
2 5+6 DAYS

1 EACH DAY in MORNING  
2 DAYS

NO 10 MINUTE



## The Art of Thumbnailing



PENNY CROWDED AGAINST MEDUSA —  
LOOKING FEARFULLY AT HOLE.  
MEDUSA EYEING TEDDY BEAR.  
MEDUSA: "AW, TSK TSK, POOR TEDDY —"



MEDUSA SNATCHES TEDDY BEAR.  
"I'LL JUST KEEP HIM UP HERE WITH ME  
WHERE HE'LL BE SAFE."



PENNY SUDDENLY  
GOES INTO DEMON:  
"YOU GIVE ME BACK MY  
TEDDY BEAR —"

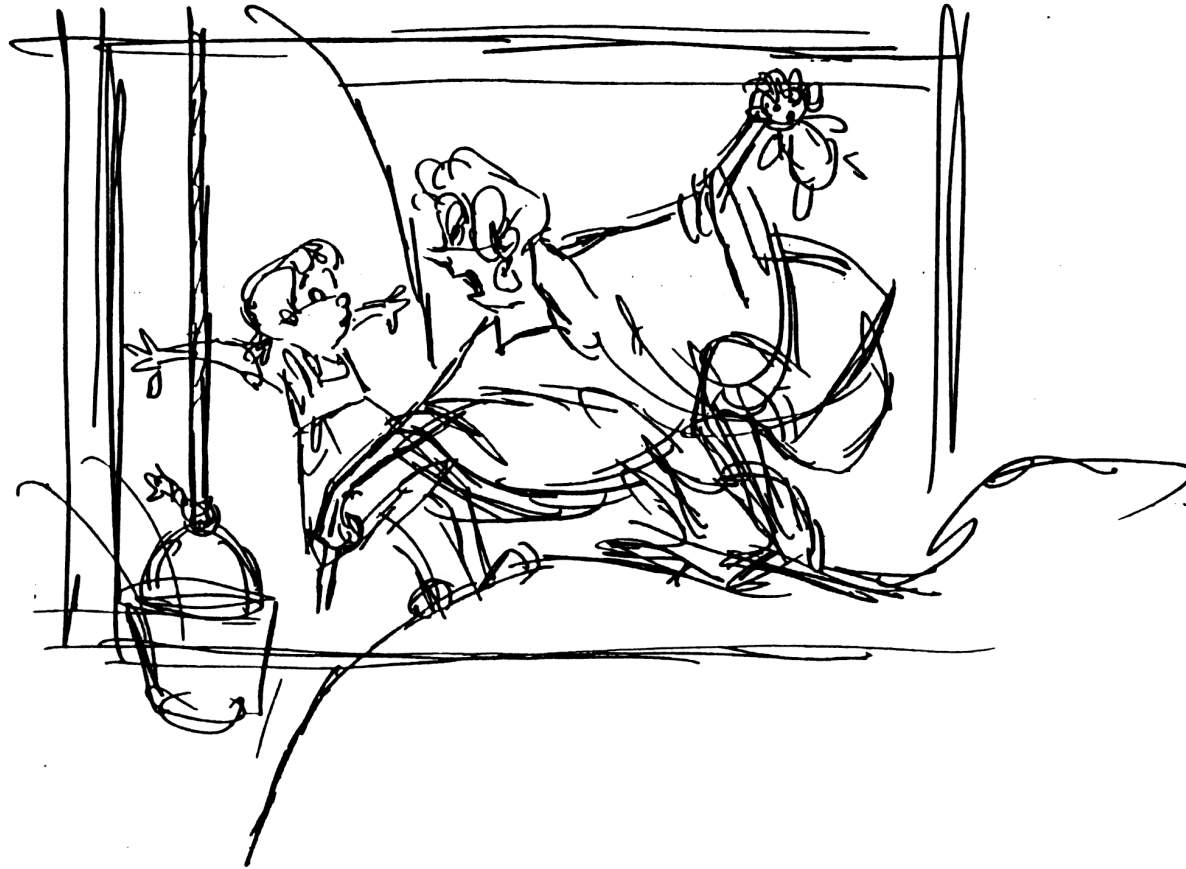
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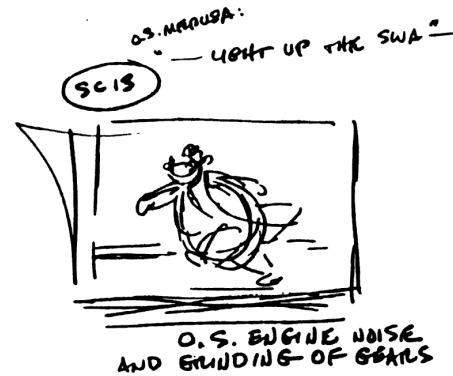
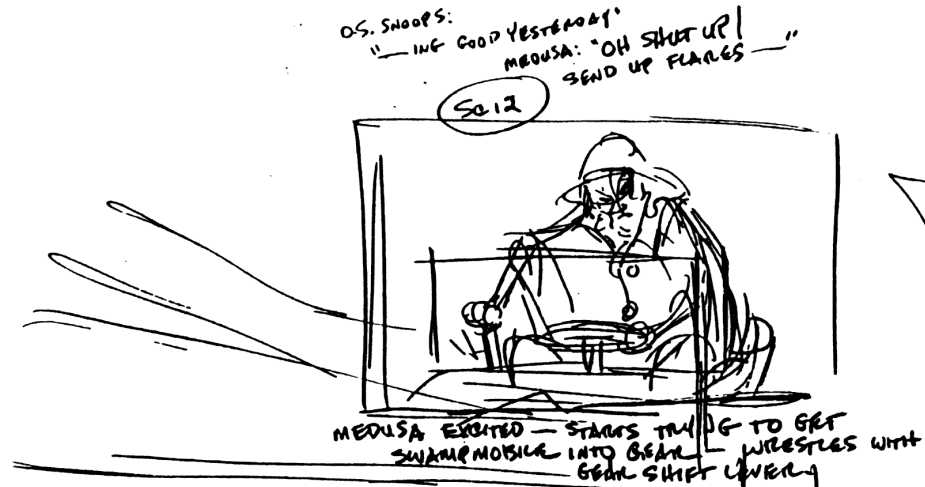
MELODY: "YOU GET DOWN THERE & FIND THE BIG  
DIAMOND OR YOU'LL NEVER SEE THAT  
TEDDY AGAIN!"

SC 10

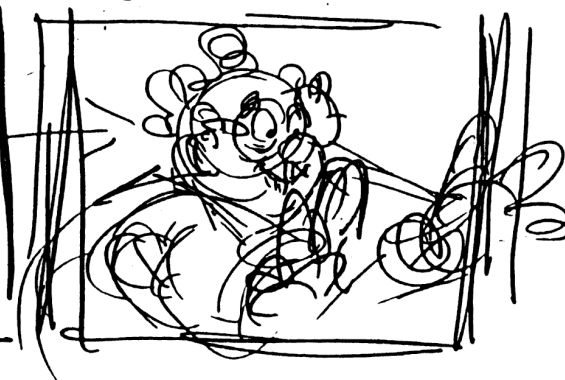
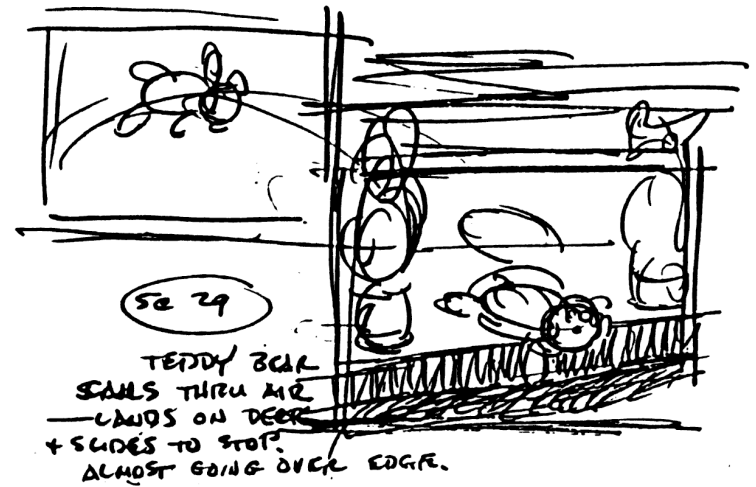
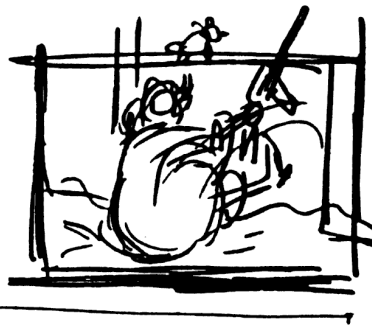
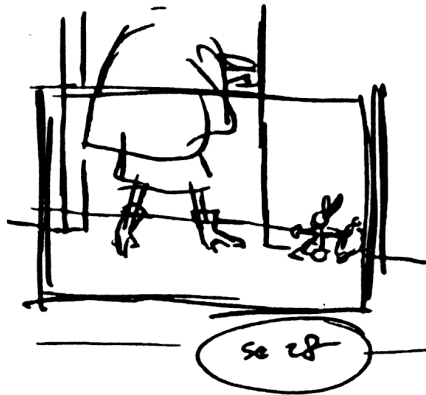




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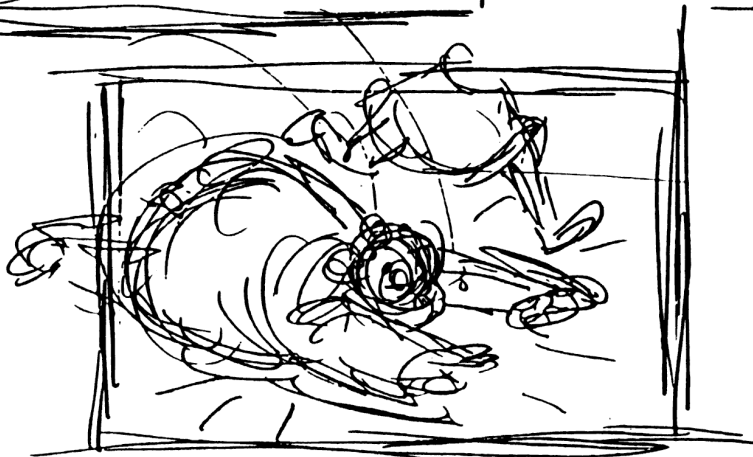
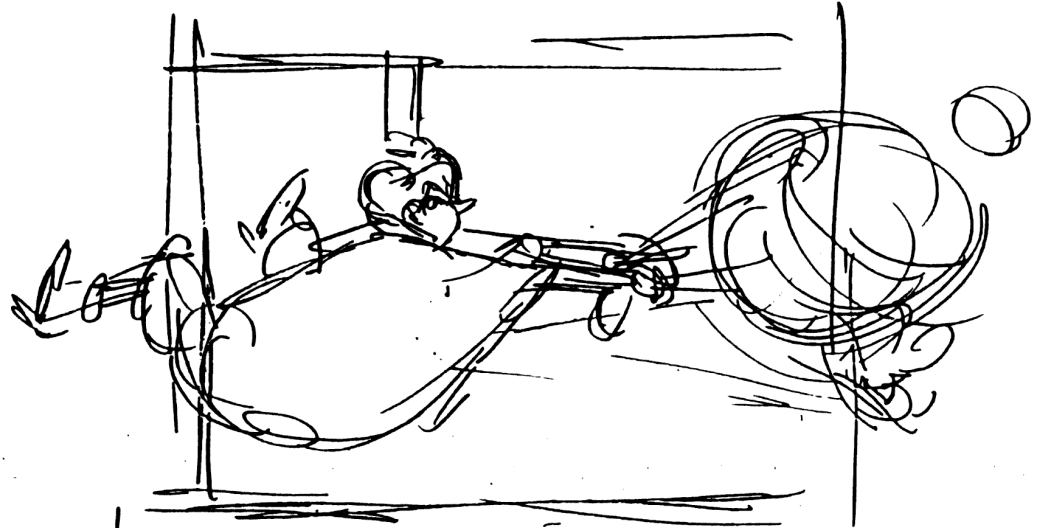
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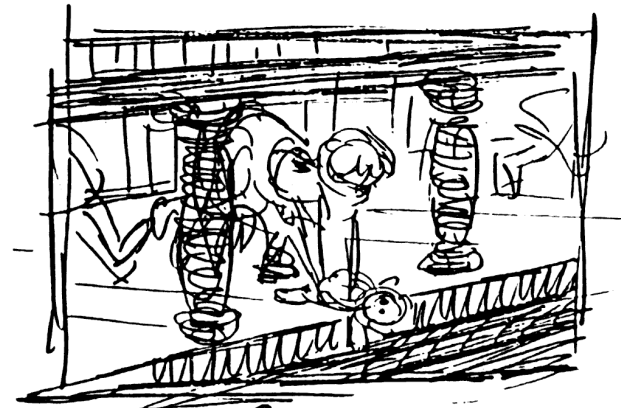
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STOP PAN AS SNOOPS FLOPS  
ON FACE — PENNY RUNS



Sc 33

PENNY DIVES FOR TEDDY  
& RUNS OUT OF SCENE  
TO RIGHT

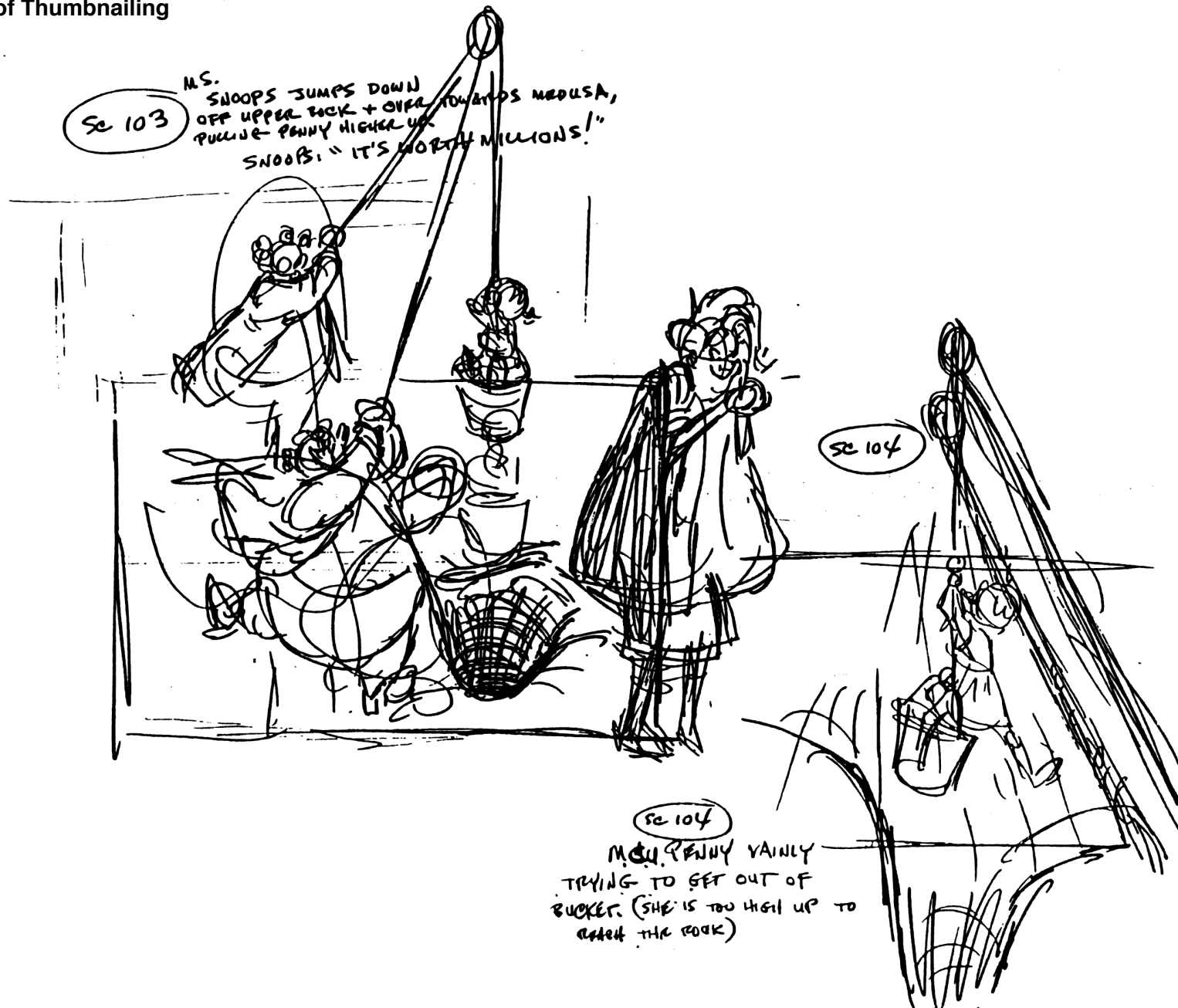
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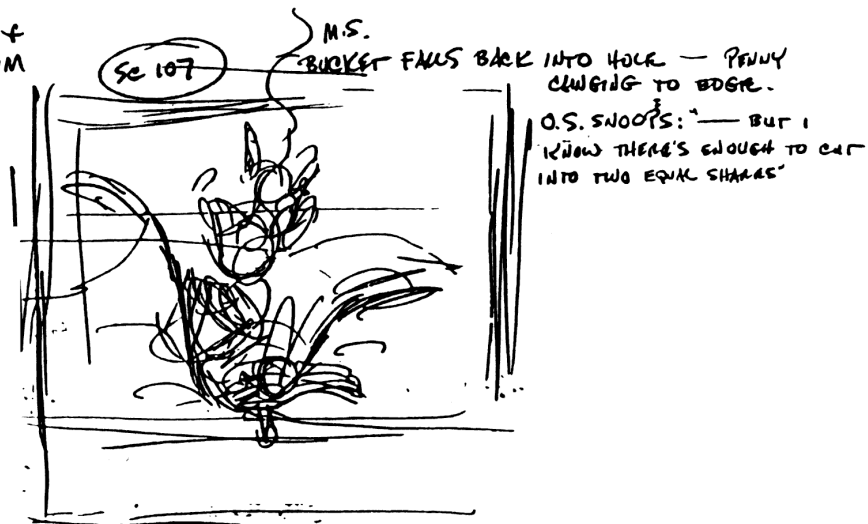
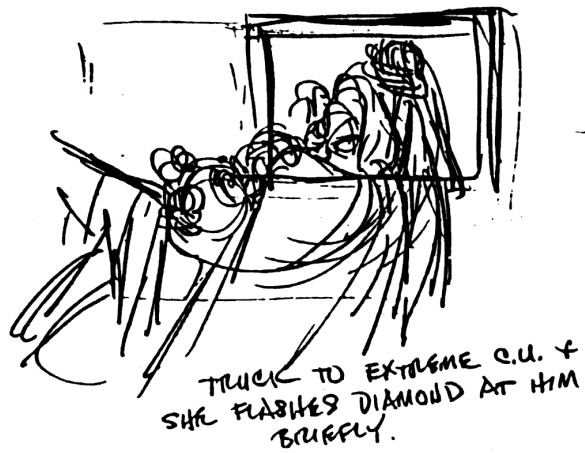
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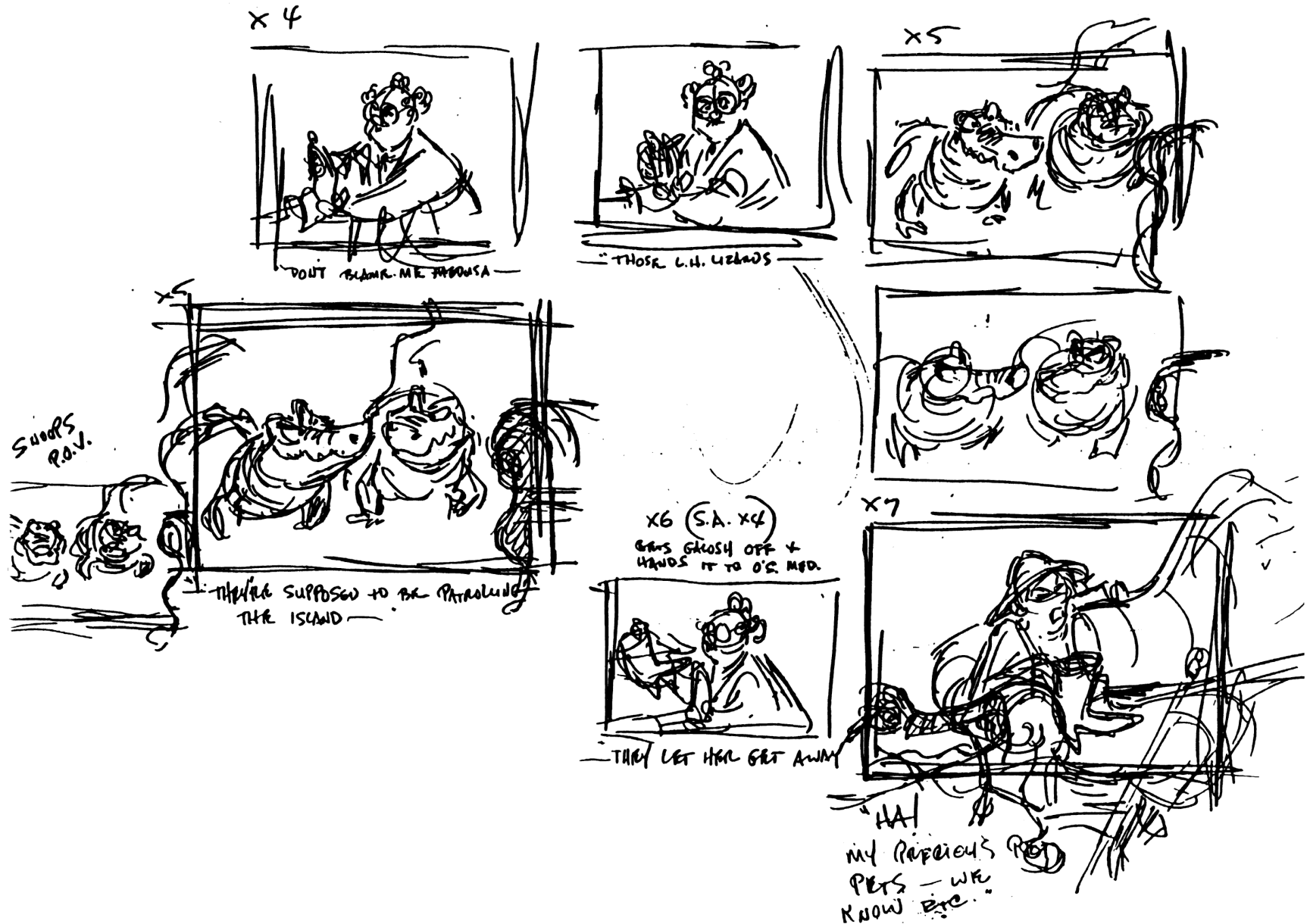


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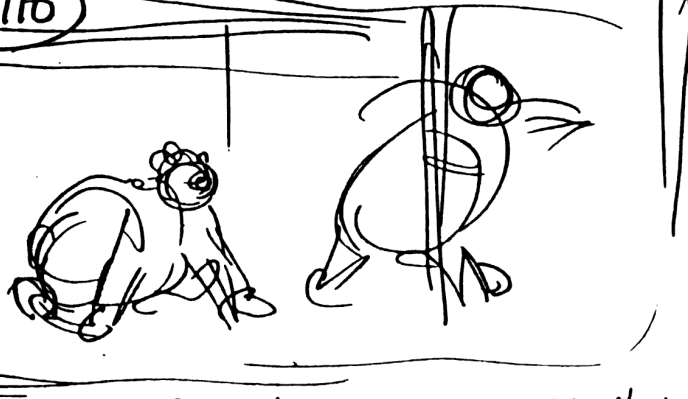


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Sc 108  
 MCU. SNOOPS WITH MEDUSA'S FOOT IN MIDDLE.  
 "EQUAL SHARES" MED: "YOU IDIOT!"  
 WE PAN WITH HIM AS HE SITS DOWN.



Sc 110



MS. SNOOPS: "ALL YOURS? WHY HALF OF IT IS MINE, YOU  
 DOUBLE-CROSSING CROOK!"  
 WE PAN WITH SNOOPS TO CAM R.  
 AS HE COMES INTO FOREGROUND. (3/4)

Sc 109 C.U. MEDUSA: "CUT UP A PERFECT  
 GEM? — AND IT'S MINE — ALL MI HA HA —"

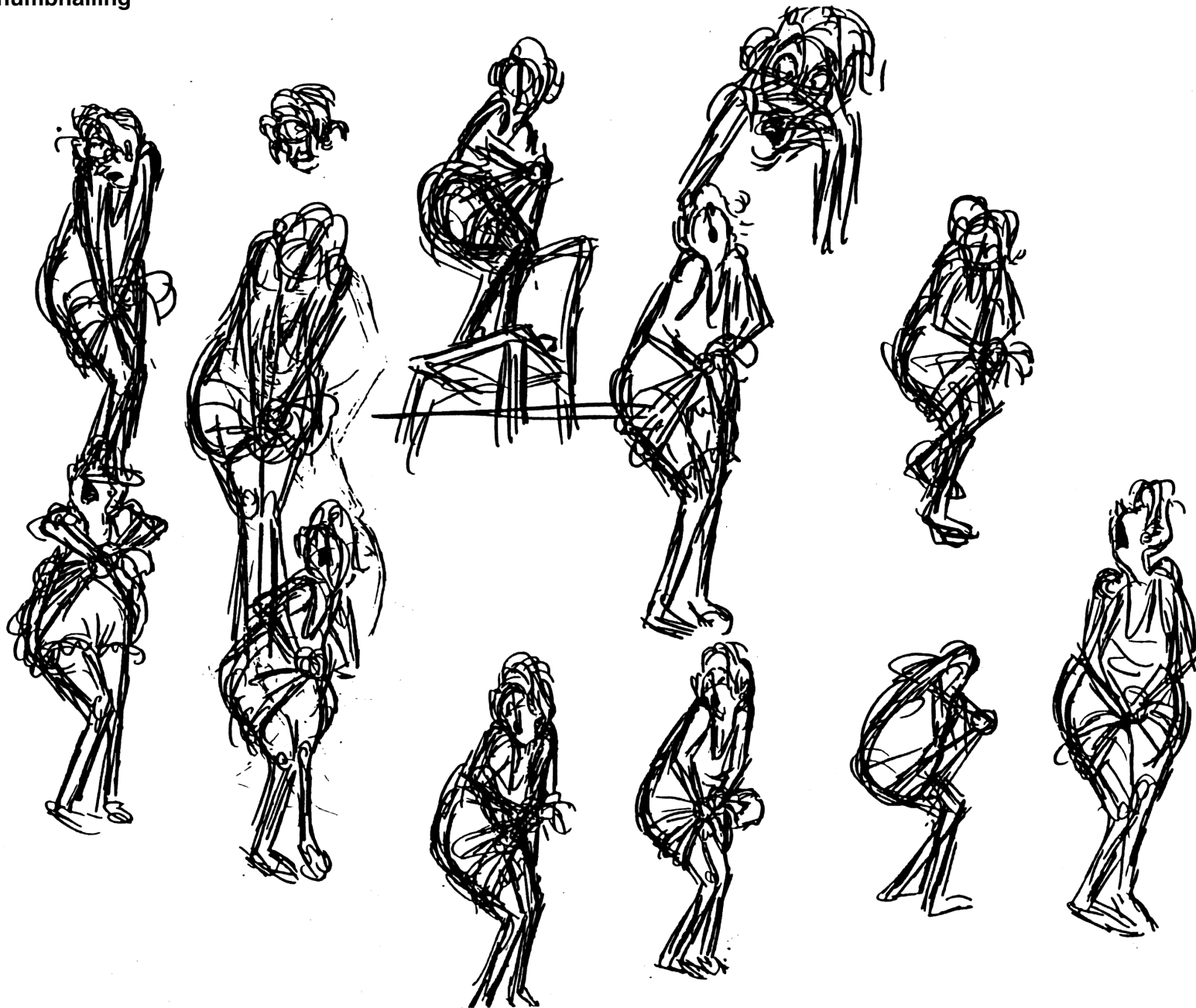


SHE STARTS  
 WAVING TO CAM R  
 ON PAN -

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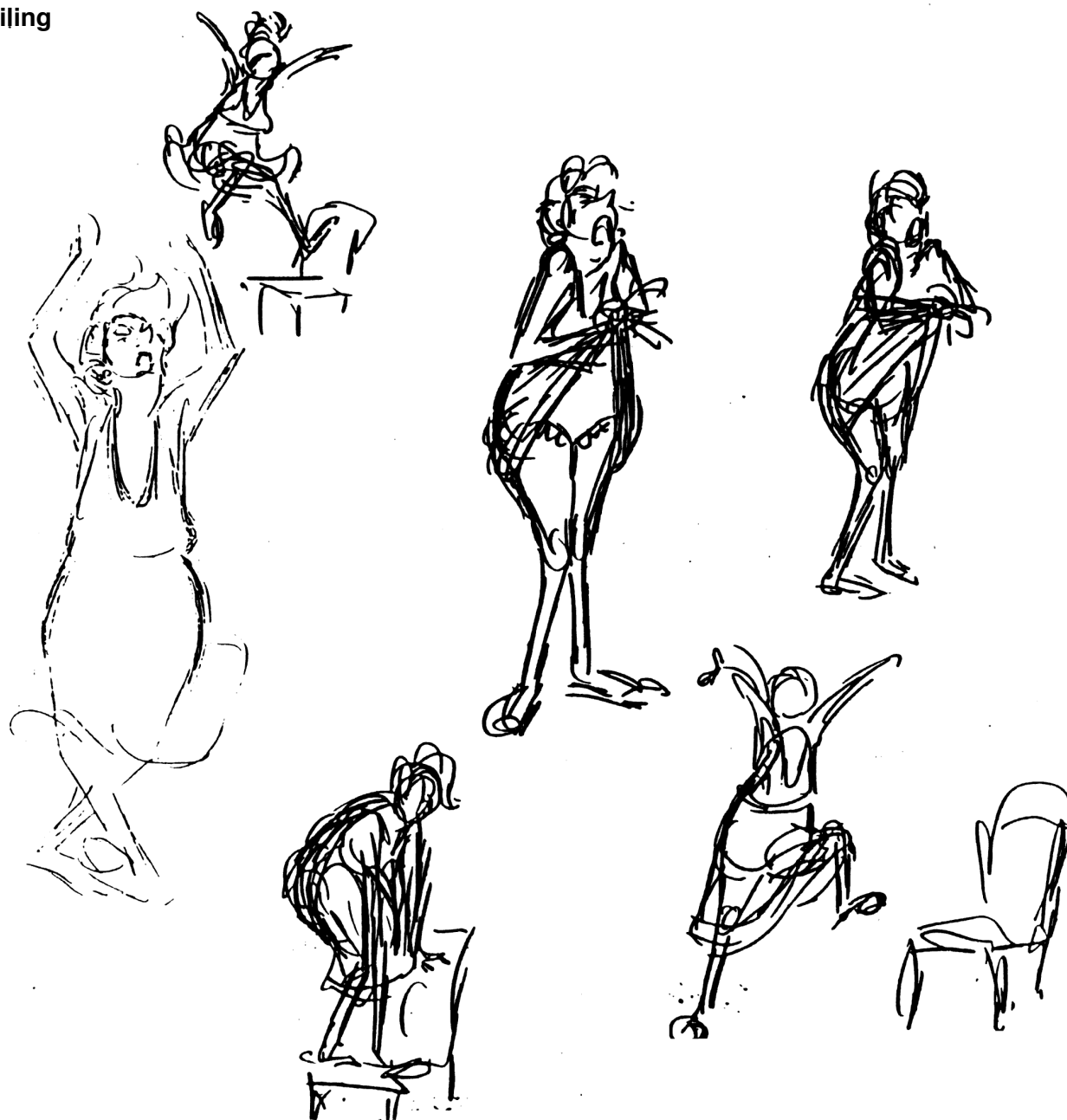
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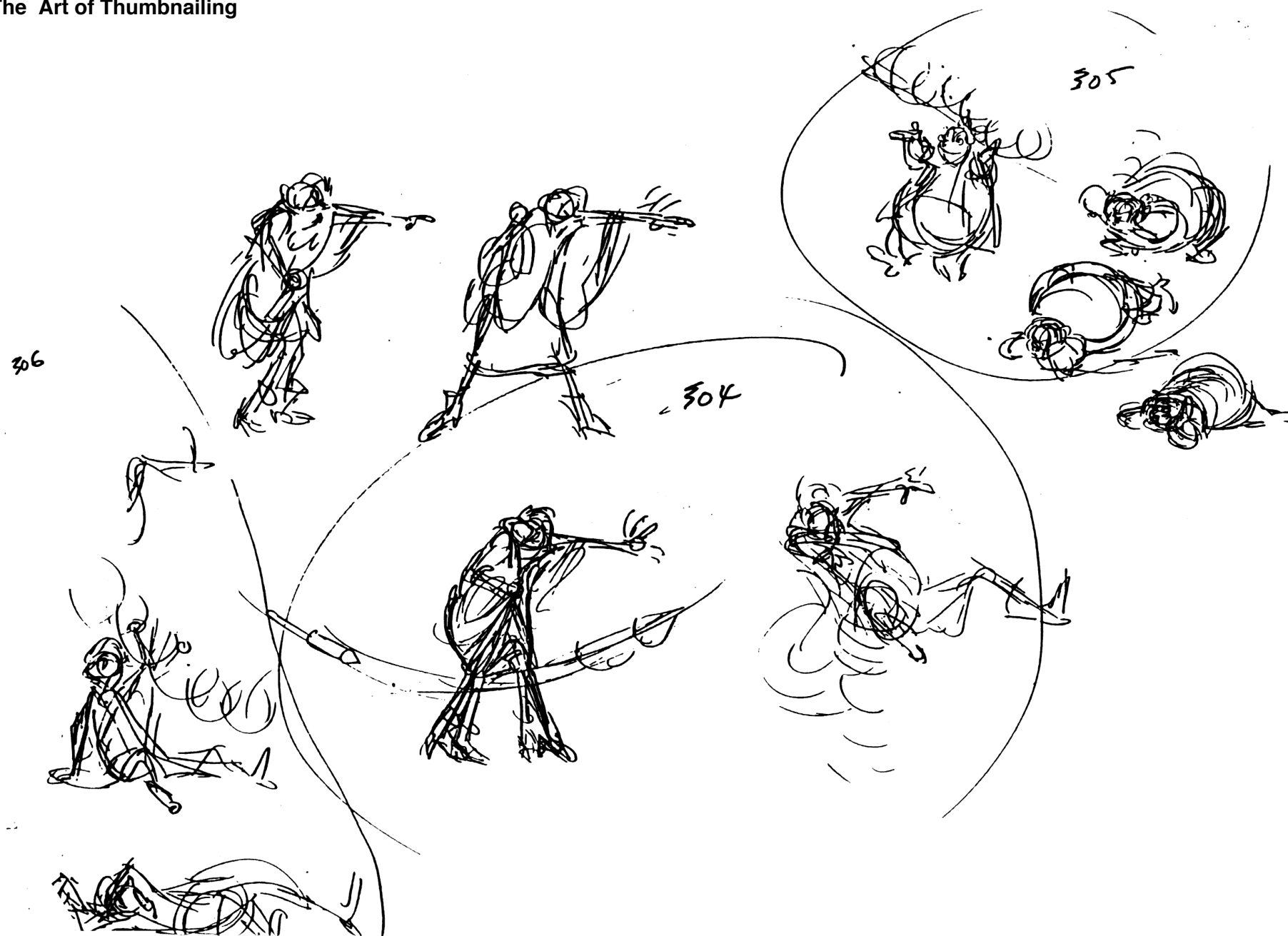




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